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June 6, 2007
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Marlene Capri
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Response under 37 CFR 1.116
Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 1621

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| In re: | Patent Application of Ansgar Behler <i>et al</i> | : | Group Art Unit: 1621 |
| Appln. No.: | 10/539,730 | : | Examiner: Lalitha Nagubandi |
| Filed: | June 20, 2005 | : | Confirmation No.: 8621 |
| For: | METHOD FOR PRODUCING HYDROXYCARBOXYLIC ACID ESTERS | : | Attorney Docket No.: C2680 PCT/US |
| Customer Number: 23657 | | | |

REPLY, WITH AMENDMENT, UNDER 37 CFR § 116(b)(3)

Mailstop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Final Office Action, dated March 15, 2007. This response is being timely filed before the due date of June 15, 2007.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this response.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this response.

Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments to the Claims, and allowance of the Application, as amended.